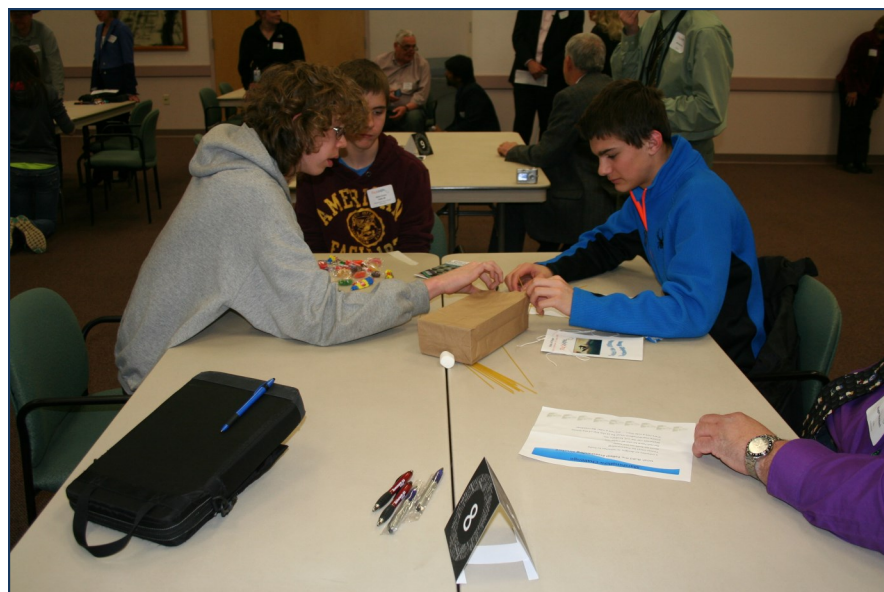# TechNight 2015

Office of Information Technology

Why Tech Night?

Even with the proliferation of technology in our society, high school students may not have a full understanding of the breadth and diversity of technology jobs. The exploding world of technology requires resources with a wide range of skills, from management to analysis to problem solving to curiosity.
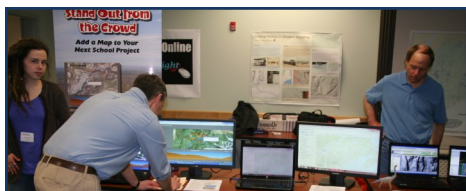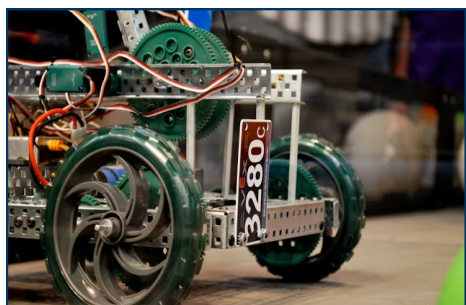
Our goal is to educate students to the possibilities of Information Technology as an exciting and very viable career path. In addition to talking about the technology aspects, we also stress the importance of teamwork, collaboration, creative problem solving, and endless learning opportunities. This event is fun and interactive. We keep the group fairly small (30-40 students) and involve them in activities that allow them to meet members of our agency, learn about some of the technology that the different agencies use throughout the State, and give them a chance to experience some of those technologies directly through hands-on activities.

> "The exploding world of technology requires resources with a wide range of skills, from management to analysis to problem solving to curiosity."

S A V E   T H E   D A T E

"...students and teachers told us multiple times that they had no idea what a career in IT meant before they attended the OIT Tech Night."

Last year, the State of Maine Office of Information Technology (OIT) held our second **OIT Tech Night** in an effort to educate Maine high school (and college) students about career opportunities in IT. It was another tremendous success and those who attended — students, educators, volunteers, and vendors — had rave reviews. It was just amazing to see the students and our employee members so engaged in the activities.

We had approximately 50 students from local schools attend the second OIT Tech Night event. The students and teachers told us multiple times that they had no idea what a career in IT meant before they attended the OIT Tech Night. One of the most popular comments from the students was, *"we thought that when we hit delete, the files were gone"* — and during one of our activity sessions the students quickly learned that was not "really" the case! Additionally, over 80% of the students said they would now consider a career in the technology field. It was just amazing to see the students and our OIT staff members so engaged in the activities.

We look forward to you joining us again this year!

2015 OIT Tech Night

Agenda

3:30 - 4:30: Technology Fair

4:30- 4:40: Master of Ceremonies WELCOME!

4:40 - 5:15: Student Challenge: All Students

5:15 - 5:25: Challenge Results

5:25- 5:50: Pizza Dinner

5:50 - 7:00: Activity Breakout Sessions: All Students

7:00 - 7:30: Trivia Questions, Movie, Photos and Closing Remarks

To volunteer your time, please contact Kelly Rickert at Kelly.Rickert@maine.gov or Courtney Alley at Courtney.Alley@maine.gov. Thanks!

Date:
March 19, 2015
Start Time:
3:30 pm
Location:
Florian Hall

http://www.maine.gov/oit/technight